

Facts on Developmental Disabilities

❖ *In the State of Montana a developmental disability is defined as a condition of mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy or any other neurological condition that is impeding the persons development. The condition will occur before the individual's 18th birthday and will have a likelihood of continuing throughout the persons lifetime.*

❖ *According to national statistics, about 1% of the population has a developmental disability. This would mean that approximately 8,000 to 9,000 Montanans have a condition that is causing them to be developmentally delayed.*

❖ *As of July 2006, approximately 1785 children and 2283 adults are receiving special services because they have a developmental disability. These 4068 individuals are receiving services in the community. This number does not include individuals who are in institutions.*

❖ *As of July 2006 there were 217 adults and 254 children on lists waiting to receive services. There were an additional 553 adults and 279 children on lists waiting to receive different or additional services. This makes a total of 1303 individuals waiting to receive services in the State.*

❖ *Most community services for persons with developmental disabilities are provided by 47 private, non-profit organizations distributed throughout the State of Montana. The services provided by these organizations include family education and support for infants, young children and their families; residential services for youth and adults; work and day services for youth and adults; avocational and leisure time activities for youth, adults and senior citizens.*

❖ *The budget for developmental disability services in Montana is approximately \$82 million annually. This amounts to an average cost per person of \$20,150 per year. Approximately 33% of this budget is State money and 67% is federal money.*

❖ *As of July 2006, 1681 individuals with developmental disabilities were receiving work and day services in Montana. This does include those in Community Supports.*